

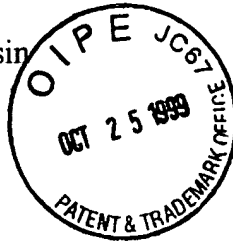
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ernest A. Voisin

Serial No.: 09/121,725

Filed: July 24, 1999

For: "A Process of Elimination of Bacteria  
In Shellfish..."



Group Art Unit: 1761

Examiner: D. Becker

Date: October 20, 1999

# 4/2  
103/99

To the Honorable Commissioner  
Of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action of July 21, 1999. A shortened statutory period for response to the Office Action was set to expire three months from the date of the letter, making response due on or before October 21, 1999.

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. The Examiner issued restriction requirement for Claims 1-4 and 6-7 (Group I), Claims 8-13 (Group II), Claims 14-26 (Group III) and Claim 5 (Group IV). Pursuant to the previous agreement, the applicant elects, with traverse, Group I (Claims 1-4 and 6-7) for prosecution in the instant application. The applicant reserves the right to file divisional application(s) before termination of proceedings in the instant application.

Please amend the application presently on file as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (amended) A method of eliminating pathogenic organisms in raw shellfish in a shell, comprising:

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